

**The Vanishing House of Lords.**

Time was when it would have been rank treason for anybody in England to say in a public speech what John Burns, the labor agitator member of parliament, said not long since:

The country which sent King Charles to sleep without a head would stand no veto from Queen Guelph or Lord Salisbury. Let the people present to the lords such a front as will induce the queen and the Prince of Wales to tell Lord Salisbury, "Imperil your own existence if you like, but do not damage our right of succession!"

The Irish radicals and labor orators started the cry, "Down with the lords!" a few years ago. Now many members of the Liberal majority in the house of commons have taken it up. London newspapers, the most conservative in the world, call for the abolishment of the British hereditary legislative house. The doom is sealed of those foolish and obstinate bishops who for 50 years have flocked in from all parts of the United Kingdom to vote against a law permitting marriage with a deceased wife's sister. The London Chronicle declares the house of commons is "baffled and insulted by this survival of mediævalism," while The News says the further existence of the house of lords cannot be reconciled with representative government.

They must go. They have destroyed themselves by a persistent course of pig-headed old fogyism. As a legislative body they will not much longer cumber the ground. As private individuals with harmless titles their lordships will doubtless still be in demand as husbands for rich American girls. This perhaps is their future mission.

**A Chance to Work.**

John T. Scott of Hampden, N. Y., writes to The Rural New Yorker that he has been eight days on the road looking for a girl to work in his dairy. He went through a good part of two counties, and every young woman he could find was "engaged," he says, presumably in work. At last he secured a little girl of 14, and that was the best he could do. He offered, while on his quest, \$5 a week and board, which was much better than the average woman engaged in manual labor can do in the city, but even at that price found nobody.

We pass John T. Scott's information on cheerfully. He writes further that on his farm at this moment there is a good house standing empty that would accommodate a large family, and there is in his neighborhood work enough to keep them all busy. If city working people who know nothing of farm work would come to him, he would willing board one or two of them for their work till they had learned how to perform farm and dairy tasks; then he would pay them wages.

From the northwest stories similar to this are told. Meanwhile in New York city, not 100 miles away from Hampden, nearly or quite 70,000 people are fed and clothed by charity. There will have to be a shaking up and redistribution of the population.

After the shah of Persia had gone home from visiting Queen Victoria, it required a month's housecleaning, more or less, to renovate the palaces which he graced with his august but piggish presence. His ideas of cleanliness did not at all agree with the standard of western bar-

barism. In brief, the palaces were a sight to behold, and many articles he had used were thrown away altogether, that being the most satisfactory way to dispose of them. This may be partially explained by the fact that under the Persian constitution the ruler of the land is forbidden to leave the soil of his country. This difficulty is got over when the shah wishes to go among western barbarians for a lark, however. A trunkful or two of the sacred soil of Persia is carted around the world with the old fellow, and some of it is always placed in his shoes. People noticed that the shah could not walk very well.

**A Hindoo Sport.**

It is perhaps owing to the length of their owners' names that the horses of India are all stunted in their growth, most of them being not larger than ponies. English occupation of the country has introduced athletic sports so far as the heat of the country will allow, and the Indians who follow British ways have taken them up. Horse racing and polo are the most fashionable of the sporting games. The horse racing is, however, only pony racing.

The most renowned turfman and polo player of India is his highness Maharaj Dhiraj Furzand Englyshia, maharajah Rajendra Singh Bahadur, maharajah of Patiala, sometimes also called king of the Sikhs. We don't know what they call him for short—perhaps Pat. He is only 21 years old, but he is enormously rich, as rich as a prince of the "Arabian Nights." His racing colors are green and gold. His highness has so completely gone back on oriental notions that though he is as dark as a very deep dyed mulatto he is married to a fair English wife. They say it was a love match.

The prince is the leading horse breeder of India, and he is also the prize pig sticker of Bombay. This accomplished gentleman, soldier, turfman, pig sticker, polo player and prince will visit England this year, and the high born sports will make a great time over him. He may also come to America to look in on some of our high born sports here.

His grace the archbishop of Canterbury comes out strong against suicide. He says that the headlines for suicides should be "Revolted Self Murder." He thinks there is a tendency among newspapers and private individuals to coddle suicides. In view of the fact that it matters little to the suicide after he is dead whether he is coddled or not, this is rather an Irish way of putting the case. Meantime, whether the public coddled them or not, no doubt hundreds of persons more than do it now would kill themselves if they only felt sure that they would be safe out of it after they were dead.

Few Americans have had the honor of a memorial in Westminster abbey. Phillips Brooks will be one of them. A beautiful mosaic picture entitled "Feed My Sheep" will be placed there to his memory.

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